CLAIMS

1. Form II 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole having substantially the same X-ray powder diffraction pattern as Figure 2, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction pattern is obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation.

2. A crystalline form of 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole characterized by an X-ray powder diffraction pattern expressed in terms of 2 theta angles and obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction pattern comprises 2 theta angles at five or more positions selected from the group consisting of at five or more of the following positions: 7.91 ±0.09, 17.33 ±0.09, 18.23 ±0.95, 19.60 ±0.09, 21.88 ±0.09, 23.24 ±0.09, 23.92 ±0.09, 25.27 ±0.09, 27.70 ±0.09, and 29.21 ±0.09 degrees.

3. 5,6,-Dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole ethanol solvate having substantially the same X-ray powder diffraction pattern as Figure 3, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction pattern is obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation.

4. Ethanol solvate of 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole characterized by an X-ray powder diffraction pattern expressed in terms of 2 theta angles and obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction pattern comprises 2 theta angles at five or more positions selected from the group consisting of at five or more of the following positions: 9.07

±0.05, 10.38 ±0.05, 15.95 ±0.05, 17.72 ±0.05, 20.75 ±0.05, 21.37 ±0.05, 22.96 ±0.05, 23.93 ±0.05, 25.40 ±0.05, and 29.05 ±0.05 degrees.

5. Form V 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole having substantially the same X-ray powder diffraction pattern as Figure 5, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction pattern is obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation.

6. A crystalline form of 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole characterized by an X-ray powder diffraction pattern expressed in terms of 2 theta angles and obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction pattern comprises 2 theta angles at five or more positions selected from the group consisting of at five or more of the following positions: 13.30 ±0.05, 18.13 ±0.05, 18.78 ±0.05, 20.41 ±0.05, 21.75±0.05, 23.02±0.05, 26.87±0.05, 28.34±0.05, 28.55±0.05, and 30.22±0.05 degrees.

7. A composition comprising an admixture of two or more forms or solvates of 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole according to any of claims 1-6.

8. A composition comprising Form II 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole according to Claim 1 and amorphous 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole.

9. A composition comprising Form I 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole having substantially the same X-ray powder diffraction pattern as Figure 1 and Form V 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole having substantially the same X-ray powder

diffraction pattern as Figure 5, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction patterns are obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation.

10. The composition according to claim 9, further comprising Form IV 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole characterized by the X-ray powder diffraction pattern expressed in terms of 2 theta angles and obtained with a diffractometer equipped with a diffracted beam curved graphite monochromator using copper Kα X-radiation, wherein said X-ray powder diffraction pattern comprises 2 theta angles at five or more positions selected from the group consisting of at five or more of the following positions: 9.29 ±0.05, 16.04 ±0.05, 18.67 ±0.05, 22.06 ±0.05, 22.68 ±0.05, 23.34 ±0.05, 24.40 ±0.05, 29.64 ±0.05, 30.92 ±0.05, and 31.62 ±0.05 degrees.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

12. 5,6,-Dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole as claimed in any one of claims 1 - 6 for use in medical therapy.

13. Use of 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a viral infection.

14. A method for the treatment of a viral infection a human which comprises administering to the human host, an effective antiviral amount of a solvate or crystalline form of 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6.

15. A process for the production of 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole in an anhydrous crystalline form said process comprising the steps of:

a) providing 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole in solution either in free base or salt form;

b) isolating 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole from the solution and optionally removing unbound solvent leaving the 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole in substantially dry form;

c) treating 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole with a solubilising solvent serving to convert an amount of said optionally dried 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole into said 5,6,-dichloro-2-(isopropylamino)-1-β-L-ribofuranosyl-1H-benzimidazole anhydrous crystalline form; and

d) isolating said anhydrous crystalline form.

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